

REMARKS

The claims of the subject application have twice been allowed (as amended) prior to the filing of this Request for Continued Examination. However, Applicants have recently become aware that art cited and previously of-record in the instant application include the disclosure of specific individual compounds within the scope of claim 1. Consequently, claim 1 presented herein is amended in a manner comprehensively to exclude such individual compounds, namely by the deletion of specific generic groups. Claims directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1 have been amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. In particular, it is noted that claim 3 incorporates subject matter originally present in claims 2 and 4-7, and these, as well as other claims, have been canceled. Additionally, a prior-entered proviso at the very end of claim 1 is no longer necessary since "the proline at the P2 position" is necessarily modified according to amended claim 1.

As amended, the claims are distinguished over references of record. Additionally, there is nothing in the references that would suggest making changes to the chemical compounds disclosed therein so as to arrive at the presently claimed chemical compounds.

Finally, the Examiner's attention is invited to original claims 23 and 24, which have been canceled. However, claim 23 has been rewritten in independent form as claim 108, incorporating all of the limitations of the prior claims on which claim 23 was dependent and further considering the instant amendments, such as generic group "E" which is limited to a carbon atom. Original claim 24, depending from claim 23 has similarly been canceled and is presented as claim 109, depending from claim 108.

Overall, no new matter is introduced as a result of the amendments. Entry of the amendments, favorable reconsideration

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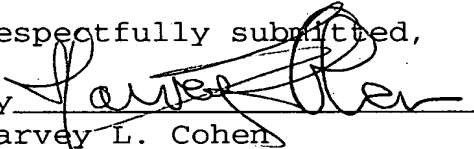
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and allowance of the amended claims are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: August 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Harvey L. Cohen
Registration No.: 28,365
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP
600 South Avenue West
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 654-5000
Attorney for Applicant

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